

Everything You Wanted to Know about Spying ... But Were Afraid to Ask

By [Washington's Blog](#)

Global Research, July 08, 2013

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Theme: [Intelligence](#), [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

Spying: The Big Picture

If you've been too busy to keep up with the spying scandal, here's an overview:

- The government is spying on [virtually everything we do](#)
- [The government's mass spying **doesn't** keep us safe](#)
- [NSA spying did **not** prevent a terror attack on Wall Street](#)
- There is [no meaningful oversight](#) of the spying programs by either Congress or the courts
- We can [keep everyone safe without violating the Constitution](#) ... more cheaply and efficiently than the current system
- The top counter-terrorism Czar under Clinton and Bush says that [revealing NSA spying programs does **not** harm national security](#)
- Whistleblowers on illegal spying have [no "legal" way to get the information out](#)
- A high-level intelligence source says ["we hack everyone everywhere"](#)
- Some people [make a lot of money](#) off of mass spying
- Spying started [before 9/11](#) ... and may have [stemmed from an emergency program only meant to be activated in the case of a nuclear war](#)
- Governments and big corporations are doing everything they can [to destroy anonymity](#)
- Mass spying [creates an easy mark for hackers](#)
- Polls show that the public [doesn't believe the NSA](#)
- Surveillance can be used to [frame you if someone in government happens to](#)

[take a dislike to you](#)

- An NSA whistleblower says that [the NSA is spying on – and blackmailing – top government officials and military officers](#) (and [see this](#))
- High-level US government officials have [warned for 40 years that mass surveillance would lead to tyranny in America](#)
- Government spying has [always focused on crushing dissent ... not on keeping us safe](#)
- While the Obama administration is spying on everyone in the country – it is at the same time the [most secretive](#) administration **ever** ([background](#)). That's despite Obama saying he's running [the most transparent administration ever](#)
- Top constitutional experts say that Obama is [worse than Nixon](#) ... and the [Stasi East Germans](#)

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